



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 5 April 1967



50X1

23
89

DAILY BRIEF
5 APRIL 1967

50X1

1. South Vietnam

Sparring between Ky and Thieu for the presidential candidacy is continuing behind the scenes in Saigon. Senior military officers, anxious to avoid having to side openly with one or the other, have agreed to wait for what they hope will be a personal understanding between the two men. The Armed Forces Council would then endorse the candidacy of the one who emerges as the "victor" from the personal agreement.

2. North Vietnam

Soviet seaborne shipments to North Vietnam have increased considerably so far this year. Deliveries of petroleum during the first three months of 1967 were up some 25 percent over the 1966 rate. Food deliveries were up dramatically--from 6,000 tons in all of last year to 36,000 tons so far in 1967. Soviet deliveries of machinery and equipment to maintain the economy and repair bomb damage have also risen notably.

Virtually all military equipment is shipped overland.

3. Communist China

The public humiliation of Liu Shao-chi grows more strident as the stage is set for his formal--and long overdue--dismissal as chief of state. In the process, all of Mao Tse-tung's miscalculations back to the 1930s are being laid at Liu's doorstep. As Liu falls, so fall many officials in the party apparatus he built over the past decade.

50X1

4. Soviet Union

50X1

5. Argentina

President Ongania is pressing the fight on Argentina's chronic inflation. Following a major devaluation of the peso last month, the government has announced a series of wage freezes and is expected to take action to hold down prices. Ongania timed his wage freeze to take advantage of the labor movement's current disarray.

6. South Korea

50X1

50X1

Top Secret